



## Summary of NACSP/NADM Workshop

### Water, Energy and Climate Conference 2014 – Mexico

May 23, 2014

**AIM:** To introduce the North American Climate Services Partnership, with emphasis on the North American Drought Monitor at the International Conference on Water, Energy and Climate (WEC) 2014. This workshop consisted of two main presentations, one on NACSP and the other on NADM, followed by a discussion panel.

1.-The first presentation was made by Mr. Jorge L Vazquez providing an overview of the North American Climate Services Partnership (NACSP), including: the Statement of Intent (SOI) , references to a recent call by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), as well as NACSP and its main projects. Also, explained the importance of climate services on the different societal and economic sectors was pointed out not only at national level but also at a regional and global scales, emphasizing the features that climate products must contain in order to become climate services. Guiding principles for implementing GFCS along with in NACSP goals and Strategic Work Plan (developed by the three Meteorological Services of Canada, the U.S.A and Mexico) were mentioned too. Then, NACSP main projects were described thoroughly, providing details about the five areas of interest: a) North American Ensemble Forecast System (NAEFS), b) North American Seasonal Forecast System (NASFS), c) Drought Monitoring activities: including the North American Drought Monitor (NADM), d) Global Daily precipitation Analysis (GPDA), e) North American Seasonal Assessment and Outlook - Fire (NASFAO),and the two regional pilot projects : Rio Grande-/Bravo (RGB) and The Great Lakes (GL). The link to the NACSP's web site was shared to the workshop participants:  
[http://cpo.noaa.gov/Partnerships/International/TheNorthAmericanClimateServicesPartnership\(NACSP\)\\_b.aspx](http://cpo.noaa.gov/Partnerships/International/TheNorthAmericanClimateServicesPartnership(NACSP)_b.aspx), given that it is being hosted now by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration(NOAA- ).

2.- Secondly, a presentation was given by Mr. Reynaldo Pascual about specific activities conducted as part of the North American Drought Monitor (NADM). The drought monitoring activities in



Mexico led by Servicio Meteorológico Nacional (SMN, the National Meteorological Service of Mexico). It was highlighted that SMN performs drought analyses based upon NADM methodology, in the same manner in which it's produced by experts in the U.S. and Canada. A detailed description about the use of many inputs, including standardized precipitation index (SPI), the vegetation health index (VHI), the normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI), etc. The role of geographic information systems (GIS) for integration and display of drought information was also mentioned. Last part of the presentation summarized SMN's activities within the National Program Against Drought (PRONACOSE-acronym in Spanish), which is coordinated by the National Water Commission (CONAGUA-acronym in Spanish) and where NADM and SMN play an important role to trigger preventive measures against drought all around the country.

3.- Finally, a panel discussion was held, moderated by Dr. Mercedes Andrade with interventions from Mr. Jorge L. Vázquez, Mrs. Adelina Albanil and Mr. Reynaldo Pascual. At this point, questions and comments from the audience were addressed covering a variety of topics. For example, Hector Mendoza inquired about probable droughts causes, to what was replied that even though drought causality is still an area of opportunity for study and research, an important percentage of drought in Mexico is caused by El Niño phenomenon as well as by decadal oscillations such as the Atlantic Multi-decadal Oscillation (AMO) and the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO). Another member of the audience, Armin Munevar (CH2 M Hill U.S. Co.) asked about frequency of product generation for several time-scales from weather to climate time-scales. This participant showed particular interest in getting to know about drought products in a multi-year timescale, panel members provided specifications about meteorological products such as bulletins and warnings as those that provide short-term forecasts. Outlooks for seasonal time scales and climate change scenarios for the very long term, but, it was stressed that also diagnoses based on historical observations are useful climatic information. Then, comments by Dr. Gloria Herrera arose: they were about some issues such as the lack of climatic information, specifically on droughts readily available to help farmers who might have lost their crops due to weather and climate phenomena, she mentioned that it is necessary that information is accessible and understandable to everyone. At the end, another participant made positive comments which highlighted the importance of the workshop and mentioned too that this kind of information should be more widely disseminated to more people.

-The NACSP and NADM presentations given at this workshop have been made available by WEC organizers for electronic dissemination and they can be found at the following links:



# NACSP



North American Climate Services Partnership

Proceedings

[http://www.iwahq.org/ContentSuite/upload/wec/file/WEC%20Mexico%202014\\_PROCEEDINGS.pdf](http://www.iwahq.org/ContentSuite/upload/wec/file/WEC%20Mexico%202014_PROCEEDINGS.pdf)

Water wiki

<http://www.iwaterwiki.org/xwiki/bin/view/Main/Tags?do=viewTag&tag=IWA+Water+Energy+and+Climate+Conference&space=EventExtra>

<http://www.iwaterwiki.org/xwiki/bin/view/Main/Search?text=NACSP&space=>